

ABSTRACT

5 A software system with a two tier arrangement  
for threads support that enhances the adaptability of  
a virtual machine to differing platforms. The  
software system includes a virtual machine with a  
threads interface layer having a set of methods that  
provide thread support in the virtual machine  
according to a standard threads interface associated  
with the virtual machine. The software system  
10 includes a native threads interface layer that  
provides a set of methods that adapt the methods of  
the threads interface layer to a platform which  
underlies the software system. The native threads  
interface layer shields the virtual machine from the  
15 particulars of the underlying operating system while  
the threads interface layer provides a stable  
interface for application programs and other tasks  
that benefit from thread support in the virtual  
machine.